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GEO. D. PRUITT,
PAUL K. SHIFFMAN, Editors;
OLIVER LUCAS, Local Editor and Reporter.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1861.

THE WAR TAXES.—The Louisville Courier, in a late article upon the war tax, undertakes to make its readers think that the war taxes of Kentucky, if she remain a State of the United States, can be paid more easily than they could be if she were to join the Southern Confederacy. The author, in his attempts to show this, falls into some gross absurdities. He says, that, if Kentucky were to secede from the United States and become a portion of the Southern Confederacy, her trade would be restored, and she would have her accustomed market. That is, she would have no trade at all—nothing to carry to market. She would, as all thinking men know, be the chief theatre of war. Contending armies would sweep to and fro through all her borders, invading enemies would desecrate her fields, and seize all the means of subsistence that they could find in their way. Any Federal force that invaded her country would organize under the flag of her country for their defence simply. Every man sees at once, that, if Kentucky were to give any such guarantees as General Leonidas Polk requires, it would be in effect to give a guarantee that she would wage a war upon the Union of which she is a part, and under which the people say they desire to live and die. Tennessee may gather her armed hosts upon our borders with a view to subdue and overawe our people—the popular Kentucky State Letter (which we publish daily), by mail or otherwise, will receive prompt attention.

The Editor of the Courier insists that costs of the Southern Confederacy far less to carry on war, with the same number of men, in the field, than the United States. And to show this, he says that the South is the invaded section, and that she will thus make a great saving in the cost of provisions by not having to transport them to a distance. This is really the most extraordinary position that any Editor or man ever took. Never before in all our lives did we hear of the pecuniary advantages enjoyed by a country at war in being the invaded rather than the invader. If such advantages exist, their existence is certainly a new discovery in the science of military economy. Belligerent nations have always been anxious to the war into each other's territories, probably not dreaming that it would come to light in the sixty-first year of the nineteenth century, that all the advantage, so far as money known as "the sinews of war," is concerned, is on the side of the invaded. If the views of the Courier be adopted by the nations of the earth, the whole plan of warfare will hereafter change.

But we guess the Courier had better revise its theories of military and financial economy. We don't believe a country finds it particularly profitable business to have its enemies waging war upon its soil. We have no idea that it can better pay its war-taxes in consequence of such an arrangement. Beyond all question, the States of the Southern Confederacy are to be the theatre, the almost exclusive theatre of this war, and the wretched condition of things in Virginia and in Missouri tells how favorable war's presence and war's ravages are to the facilities of tax-paying. The hostile invaders of a section usually quarter themselves upon it for subsistence. The cities and devout cattle and horses at their own expense or without price. Even the most civilized nations are not apt to pay, under such circumstances, exorbitant sums for food and clothing. We think that the catalogue of the nations that have grown rich or been put in a good condition to face the tax gatherers by being subjected to foreign and hostile invasions must be a very bad one.

It is this which disposes loyal men among us and inspires the disloyal ones. It is this which according to our firm conviction renders the cause of the Legislature in the last degree shorn of strength and ruinous. The fact, if it were a fact, that "no authority of the Legislature is needed to baste" the raising of troops under Gen. Anderson in Kentucky, would be no answer to this; for the chief question does not concern the raising of troops but the enemy against whom the troops are to be led. If, indeed, the action of the Legislature were not needed to baste the raising of troops under Gen. Anderson, it would still be needed to meet Kentuckians for the sake of Kentucky. It is this which the preventing of fratricidal war in her borders, and the potency of her call will be multiplied a thousand-fold. He needs to be thus crushed, his name and his honor to her than peace with all its blessings.

We wish peace. We would have had peace in Kentucky forever but for the inexorable invasion of Kentucky by Confederate troops. Until they withdraw, Kentuckians will scorn to have peace. They are for war, war to the knife, so long as the foot of an invader treads the soil of this glorious old State. Kentucky's honor is dearer to her than peace with all its blessings.

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What our neighbor the Democrat says, therefore, does not in any degree palliate the inaction of the Legislature. Nor does anything else that we have seen or heard. The inaction of the Legislature is not to be blamed.

We don't think it at all necessary to defend ourselves against the Courier's charges or innuendos that we are governed by mercenary considerations. As for the liberal subscriptions for the Journal in various parts of the United States, our neighbor's chief regret unquestionably is that they were not given to the Courier instead of the one as of the other.

In our brief letter of thanks, we spoke of "struggling against tremendous odds," and the Editor of the Courier construes this as an admission that our party in this State, the Union party, is vastly in the minority. He cannot be such a fool as to think us such a fool as to have made any such admission. He knows it to be our pride and boast that the Union party is an overwhelming majority in Kentucky. The "tremendous odds" against which our paper has had to struggle are fully set forth in an appeal, we trust a many one, which we made some time since to the patriotism of the nation for support—the odds against us by the prostration of business and the consequent cessation of advertising and by the cutting off of thousands and tens of thousands of Southern subscriptions first by the action of Vigilance Committees, and then by the discontinuance of the Southern mails.

The Courier alludes to a contract obtained by Mr. Dennis, of the Portland railroad, for furnishing horses and mules to the Government. No influence of the Journal was used in obtaining that small contract, we never heard of it till long after it had been made, and no person exercising or seeking to exercise the slightest control over the course of our paper has the least interest direct or indirect in the arrangement.

The Editor of the Courier pretends to think that an article in our paper of Thursday was designed to instigate mob violence against his office. We have no idea that he really thinks so. We say that the tendency of his whole course for some time past has been to subvert the authority of Government, to encourage doleances, to substitute anarchy for order, a reign of terror for a rule of peace, but should be grieved on many accounts if the summary penalty he so insanely provides were to be visited on him or on the office from which he sends forth his incendiary appeals. We are not in favor of violating law to prevent or punish its violation. No, we would hold up to the lawless the simple terrors of the law. Our conviction is, that the lawless destruction of the Courier would do more harm than the paper could do in three scores and ten of robust life.

CONTINUATION OF OUTRAGE.—On Thursday evening Mr. M. D. Whitehead, a highly respectable citizen of Franklin, Kentucky, whilst returning home from this city, was seized on the railroad platform at Cave City, by half a dozen ruffians and thrashed into the cars, the fellows swearing that he would be forced to Camp Boone. The villainy belonged to a company of sixty-six secession soldiers, their wives and little ones left behind in their once happy homes. Although not much given to the melting mood, our worthy friend could not restrain the tear of sympathy. He felt grateful that he was a citizen of Kentucky, and he felt his soul strengthened to battle for his freedom to the last extremity.

WE understand that some persons are circulating a statement that the Louisville Journal has received ten thousand dollars from the North as a bribe. We deem it due to the Union party and the Union cause to vindicate the Journal from calumny. Our paper has never received anything from the North, the East, or the West, except in the way of regular subscriptions. Heavy subscription lists are a shadow to no paper. If they were, we should flinch for our connection with the Louisville Journal.

The Courier refers to the course of the Journal during the Mexican war. Will the Courier tell in what respect its own course differed from the Journal's on the subject of the Mexican war?

A great deal of excitement exists in the State owing to the hostile invasion of the South by Confederate troops; and it is thought that the invasion will be in rapidity to expel these troops. Troops are raising rapidly in Kentucky; and no authority of the Legislature is needed to do this. It is the duty of General Anderson.—*Low. Democrat.*

If this view is designed to palliate the inaction of the Legislature, it does not fulfill the design. The view not only fails to meet the point but is erroneous in fact.

The prompt and decisive action of the Legislature is required not so much to hush the raising of troops in the State as to arrest the progress of apostasy and treason amongst us and to brace and nerve the public spirit of our people for the conflict before them. For the lack of such action the cause of the State is daily growing weaker in numbers and colder in resolve. Every hour that such action is delayed the unhappy disposition of some of our people to side with the invader is confirmed, and the spirit of the loyal masses is dampened and dispirited. These are facts which every citizen knows who has eyes and sees. They are facts as open as they are deplorable. Nor are they in the least accountable. They are very plain facts in every aspect.

Under any circumstances, and in view of whatever antecedents, the silence and unswiftness of the authorities of a proud Commonwealth upon whose soft soil the foot of the invader should be decently planted would serve to bewilder and demoralize the people. Authority ever tends to propagate its own disposition or disposition it manifests.

Unfortunately the circumstances now surrounding the Legislature of Kentucky are adapted to cripple rather than to fortify the action of this tendency for good. The avowed disloyalty of a minority of our people, the anomalous position of neutrality which the loyal majority have assumed for the sake of domestic peace, the vague and unstable character of the loyalty of many of the majority, and, finally, the confusion of judgment and of purpose inseparable from a state of ceaseless rebellion in which accident and passion almost exclusively sway the hour constitute together a form of demoralization or revolution which even the prompt and decisive action of the Legislature might not entirely overcome, and with which nothing else can cope. The invasion of Kentucky by Confederate troops, it would be in effect to give a guarantee that she would wage a war upon the Union of which she is a part, and under which the people say they desire to live and die. Tennessee may gather her armed hosts upon our borders with a view to subdue and overawe our people—the popular Kentucky State Letter (which we publish daily), by mail or otherwise, will receive prompt attention.

It is this which motivates her efforts and zealousness, and she would have no trade at all—nothing to carry to market. She would, as all thinking men know, be the chief theatre of war.

Contending armies would sweep to and fro through all her borders, invading enemies would desecrate her fields, and seize all the means of subsistence that they could find in their way. These are facts which every man sees at once, that, if Kentucky were to secede from the United States and become a portion of the Southern Confederacy, her trade would be restored, and she would have her accustomed market. That is, she would have no trade at all—nothing to carry to market. She would, as all thinking men know, be the chief theatre of war.

By Federal forces Gen. Polk means not only soldiers enlisted in the Free States in the service of the Federal Government, but even Kentuckians who may organize under the flag of their country for their defence simply. Every man sees at once, that, if Kentucky were to give any such guarantees as General Leonidas Polk requires, it would be in effect to give a guarantee that she would wage a war upon the Union of which she is a part, and under which the people say they desire to live and die.

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GENERAL POLK'S PROCESSION.—We learn from an entirely reliable source that since the occupation of Columbus and Hickman by the Confederates, a company of Confederates will leave the State if Gen. Grant will do the same. These fellows are attempting knowingly to practice a deception. They know better than this. Here are the terms demanded by Gen. Polk.

"I am prepared to say that I will agree to withdraw the Confederate troops if the Legislature will do the same. The terms will be as follows: First, to withdraw simultaneously with a *quarter*, which I will give to the Federal Government, but the withdrawal shall not be allowed to enter or to remain in the State. Second, to withdraw simultaneously with a *quarter* of Kentucky in the future."

Even if Kentucky could honorably consent to any terms upon which her soil was to be evacuated by a band of soldiering rebels claiming to belong to a foreign Government, she could not without utter abasement consent to all this. We say to Kentuckians, to arms! to arms! until the last invader is driven from our State or is made to lie down.

1st. Agree that the Federal forces shall be withdrawn.

2d. General Polk's demands shall be withdrawn.

3d. General Polk's demands shall be withdrawn.

4th. General Polk's demands shall be withdrawn.

5th. General Polk's demands shall be withdrawn.

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21st. General Polk's demands shall be withdrawn.

22d. General Polk's demands shall be withdrawn.

23d. General Polk's demands shall be withdrawn.

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27th. General Polk's demands shall be withdrawn.

28th. General Polk's demands shall be withdrawn.

29th. General Polk's demands shall be withdrawn.

30th. General Polk's demands shall be withdrawn.

31st. General Polk's demands shall be withdrawn.

1st. General Polk's demands shall be withdrawn.

